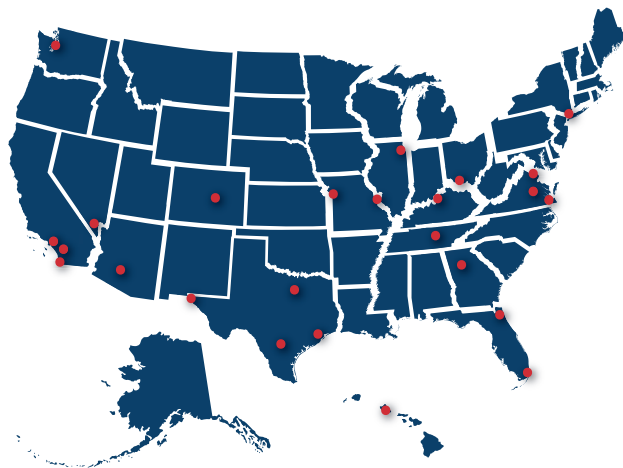


Veterans Economic Communities Initiative

The **Veterans Economic Communities Initiative (VECI)** aims to increase the number of education and employment opportunities for Veterans and their families through a network of support at the community level.

The first 25 VECI communities are in:

Atlanta, GA	Kansas City, MO	Richmond, VA
Chicago, IL	Las Vegas, NV	Riverside, CA
Cincinnati, OH	Los Angeles, CA	San Antonio, TX
Colorado Springs, CO	Louisville, KY	San Diego, CA
Dallas, TX	Miami, FL	Seattle, WA
El Paso, TX	Nashville, TN	St. Louis, MO
Honolulu, HI	New York, NY	Washington, DC
Houston, TX	Norfolk, VA	
Jacksonville, FL	Phoenix, AZ	



Building Community Support Networks

Economic Liaisons in each VECI community will collaborate with government leaders, businesses, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations to help build an integrated network of support and resources for Veterans and their families.

Economic Liaisons will:

- Raise awareness of the benefits of investing in Veterans.
- Equip employers with information and tools that will help them hire and retain Veteran employees.
- Work with community partners and policy experts to find ways to overcome education and career challenges that Veterans and their families face.
- Encourage educational institutions to help Veterans use their education benefits to gain the skills they need for career success.
- Make connections among the numerous community organizations that serve Veterans and their families to maximize their impact.

Driving Success for Veterans and Communities Nationwide

Access to resources and support will empower Veterans and their families to return enormous value to their communities. Using their GI Bill® and other benefits, they will become students, homeowners, entrepreneurs, employees, and community leaders. This not only creates stability and opportunity for Veterans, but also boosts the community's economy and ability to attract more Veterans to its workforce.

VECI communities will serve as models for other communities to follow, so that Veterans and their families nationwide have the opportunities and support they need to achieve economic success.



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs